

AMENDMENT TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 20, line 20, with the following rewritten paragraph:

The transfer gates are generally provided in such a manner that they are shared by a vertical line of photodiodes. The transfer gates 42 in the embodiment, however, have been formed separately in such a manner that they correspond to the photodiodes 41 on a one-to-one basis. Additionally, these transfer gates 42 are connected to common junction lines ~~[[46]]~~ 4b in such a manner that they are divided into groups so as to correspond to the groups 41A, 41B, 41C, and 41D of the photodiodes 41 and are connected to the common junction lines 46 group by group. The CCD driver 17 of FIG. 1 supplies transfer pulses SA, SB, SC, and SD via the common junction lines 46.